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SB 21 AN ACT CONCERNING A STATE-WIDE PROPERTY TAX
ON CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY
SB 28 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CAPITAL GAINS SURCHARGE
SB 29 AN ACT CONCERNING THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

Good afternoon Senator Fonfara, Representative Scanlon, Senator Martin, Representative Cheeseman, and the distinguished members of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee. My name is Silvia Salinas, I live in Bridgeport for 20 years, I am a *Community Advocate at Connecticut Worker Center* we fight for worker's and immigrant rights, and we are also members of Recovery For All, a statewide coalition of faith, community, and labor organizations united to eliminate systemic inequalities and rebuild a better Connecticut. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 21, SB 28 and SB 29.

We serve domestic worker who are doing the essential work for our state, they can't be invisible anymore, they allow other jobs to be possible, they pay taxes, and they deserve to have access to essential services like other workers do, such as health insurance, mental health services, better education, and job opportunities. We know we can expand services for all if we address the unfairness of CT's tax code.

Throughout the pandemic we worked very hard to support our members with programs such as rent assistance relief which ended already and left behind many families who are still at risk of being evicted and can't afford to pay their bills and rent. If Connecticut is one of the richest states in the nation, why do we have an income and wealth inequality like this....

Many of our families don't have access to unemployment benefits due to their immigration status, many of them continue to lose their jobs and can't bring food to their tables. Unfortunately, our families always suffer the most. Our children are learning to cope with many issues we never even imagined we would have to deal with. Our schools also need more resources and funds to expand services and offer our children a safe place to learn. Schools should implement new programs that support student's teacher's and parent's needs specially on mental health. Services must be offered to everyone despite their immigration status.

Last year many of our members benefit from the child tax credit which helped them get their needs met while it lasted. If our families continue to have the opportunity to receive those type of credits, in this case the earned income tax credit stated on SB29 it would provide immediate and permanent relief for those who need it most.

SB21 and SB28 would ask high income earners to share the responsibility of building a strong economy. Our people are still suffering, and our state has a responsibility to meet our needs. I urge the Committee to have the courage to make the right choice and pass SB21, SB28 and SB29. Thank you for the opportunity to be the voice of our community and represent them through this testimony.

